

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 4, please replace the fifth full paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 3b is the same embodiment of a temporary fixation device of FIG. [[3b]] 3a with the driver removed;

On page 14, please replace the first full paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

In addition to providing temporary fixation, fixing member 60 also ensures that the rod [[101]] 102 is fully seated within the cradle 106 of the spinal implant 101. It will be appreciated that at this stage of the procedure, although there may be repeated loosening and tightening of fixing member 60 against rod 102, the locking nut 111 that will maintain permanent fixation of rod 102 within spinal implant 101 post-operatively, has not yet been passed over the distal threads 109, leaving these threads and threads 113 of locking nut 111 in a pristine condition until finally used for permanent fixation. Thus, in one embodiment, in contrast to permanent fixation, TFD 10 provides for temporary fixation of rod 102 within cradle region 106 to permit the surgeon to secure and unsecured rod 102 within cradle region 106 without forcing arms 107 and 108

together against rod 102 with locking nut 111 until a final position of rod 102 is determined for permanent fixation.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 14, to the end of the page, with the following amended paragraph:

Once the optimal position of the vertebral bodies is determined, handle 150 can be removed from fixing member 60. Driver 80 can then be passed onto TFD 10 such that cannula engaging region 81 of driver 80 engages the corresponding exterior surface contour of driver engagement region [[26]] of outer cannula 20. The outer cannula 20 can then be rotated by driver 80 to advance locking nut 111 distally along distal threads 109 to secure surface 112 of locking nut 111 against rod 102. A handle such as handle 150 (FIG. 9) or a "T" handle or other known handle can be used to rotate driver 80. In one preferred embodiment a torque limiting wrench can be used to finally tighten all locking nuts on all implants

On page 15, please replace the second full paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 10 illustrates one embodiment of an anti-torque arrangement 200 suitable for use with a TFD 10 according to the invention. As illustrated, anti-torque arrangement 200 can include a handle 201 for gripping and a rod stabilizing arrangement 202 for grasping a portion of rod 102. Thus, when driver 80 is rotated in the direction of arrow 205 to tighten a locking nut, such as locking nut 111, handle [[150]] 201 can be used to provide an anti-torque force in the direction of arrow 206 to counteract the forces on the assembly 100 during final tightening of the locking nuts.